

The Ranchos Independent



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Remembering 9-11 in the Ranchos



Word From Home, a ministry of Lifetree @ Madera Ranchos Assembly of God Church, sponsored the 4th Annual 9/11 Ranchos Cruise-In and Car Show to help raise funds to send "care packages" to our troops overseas. Over 1,290 packages have been sent to troops in Iraq and Afghanistan in the past 5 years by this local group.

In This Issue

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Cruise-In Remembers 9-11 and Our Troops at War

Maywood Center was the setting of a very successful cruise-in for Word From Home, a ministry of Lifetree @ Madera Ranchos Assembly of God Church. Andrew Isolano, first responder for the NYFD on 9/11, was present to share his memories of the event. All present were very thankful

for his words. Our own Station 19 was represented with volunteer fire fighters as well as the food truck and two engines.

A generous contribution by Algonquin Power Company assisted the group in sending over 30 packages in September and will also help pay for postage for Christmas

packages to be sent out in November. Over 1,290 packages have been sent to troops in Iraq and Afghanistan in the past 5 years.

Contact Pam Hansen at 559-474-2330 if you would like to contribute to the packages for our troops or participate in packing the boxes



Andrew Isolano was there on 9/11 as a NYFD first responder and shared his memories.



The purpose behind the event was filling these boxes with items for our troops overseas.



Ranchos volunteer firefighters and Explorer Scouts listened attentively as Isolano spoke of 9/11.

Annual Ranchos Fire Station BBQ Fundraiser Wrap UP

By Christi McKinney

The Madera Ranchos Volunteer Fire Department held their 26th Annual BBQ Fund Raiser on Saturday, August 20 at the beautiful Vista del Rio Ranch on the banks of the San Joaquin River at Freeway 99. The cool summer evening at the beautiful ranch was the perfect setting for an evening of dining, dancing and fun under the stars. The popular annual fundraising event was attended by 700 people this year and raised a total of \$21,000. This enabled our volunteer firefighters from station 19 and station 9 to purchase a new Jaws of Life for the Madera Ranchos community.

As attendees arrived they stopped by the 2nd Annual "Stop, Drop



Of course it can't be a BBQ without food and the food was a hit.



The salsa contest, in its second year, drew a lot of attention.



If you wanted to get your dance on the Cadillac Cowboys were happy to help.

ago. Isolano lost 343 fellow New York City firefighters who were killed on 9-11 when terrorists attacked New York's Twin Towers.

Throughout the evening there was something for everyone to enjoy. Attendees were introduced to our local Volunteer Firefighters and had the opportunity to thank them for their dedicated service to our community. These men and women are truly heroic for volunteering their time to keep our community safe. Whether it be a fire, a car accident or a medical emergency we are all extremely grateful to see them show up right when we need them most.

Cold beer, margaritas and sweet tea were all available for

purchase along with "Split the Pot" tickets. Attendees also had the opportunity to bid on many silent auction items and to preview items that had been donated by the community for a live auction later in the evening.

A delicious meal of BBQ tri-tip, chicken, rice pilaf and salad was catered by Eric Wagner of Outlaw Catering. Event Organizer Debbie Farr was proud to say that "700 people were served

in just 30 minutes!" Desserts were both sold and auctioned off. Delicious pies were donated by Marie Calendars and Ollie Ridge donated some of her scrumptious homemade brownies to those who bought early. However those who waited faced stiff competition for their dessert. A highlight of the evening was a very animated dessert auction in which resident and volunteer Ollie Ridge's "Famous Truffle Pudding" sold for \$3,000! Now that's some

Please see **BBQ** on P. 18

North Fork Casino Takes Step Forward

An Open Letter from Tribe Spokesman Charles Altekruse

By now you probably have heard the wonderful news: on Friday, September 2, 2011, the Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs (Mr. Larry Echo Hawk) issued a favorable two-part determination on the North Fork Rancheria's proposed gaming project. Specifically, the Assistant Secretary determined that gaming on the proposed site would be in the best interest of the Tribe and not detrimental to the surrounding community.

The decision is an important step in the rigorous federal process to take land into trust for purposes of tribal-government gaming but not the final step before we can begin construction. Several important steps remain, most notably Governor Brown must concur with this decision. Following that, the DOI/BIA would be in a position to move forward with the final administrative steps in the process by issuing a final EIS Record of Decision ("ROD") and notice of determination to take land into trust.

As you can imagine, the Tribe is delighted with this favorable decision and eager to complete the remaining approval steps. This announcement is welcomed because it reaffirms both the positive economic impacts of the project to the local community and the Tribe as well as the Tribe's historical connection to the proposed gaming site.

This decision moves us one step closer to our goal of bringing jobs, business opportunity and economic growth to Madera County - and to the nearly 1,900 tribal citizens of the North Fork Rancheria. We look forward to continuing our work with local and state leaders in a collaborative, respectful and transparent manner that respects both tribal sovereignty and the spirit and letter of the law.

On behalf of the Tribe, I would personally like to express our gratitude to you and the thousands of other community supporters, leaders, and businesses who helped us carry this shared dream forward to this decision - without your unflagging support we would not be here today. And we mean that both figuratively and literally: local support for

Please see **CASINO** on P. 12

Learn Grant Writing for FREE

SEMCU (South East Madera County United) is sponsoring a grant writing class and is offering it to all Southeast Madera County residents. This class is free for all SEMCU members and will cost \$10 for all nonmembers. The classes are going to be taught at Liberty High School but the final date has not been determined yet.

According to a Website from Michigan State University, a survey of income for grant writers found that on-staff grant writers average between \$37,000 and \$46,000 a year while independent writers may work for \$60 to \$100+ an hour.

If you'd like more information please call 559-363-9095 or email SEMCU at info@semcu.org.

Friends of the Ranchos Library Host Inaugural Cool Jazz and Wine Event

By Ellen Mester

The Birdstone Winery on Road 36 in the Madera Ranchos created the perfect setting for the inaugural "Cool Jazz and Wine" fundraiser for the Friends of the Ranchos Library on Saturday, Sept. 17. Birdstone's award winning wine, expertly poured into crystal clear glasses by owners Kimberly and Tony Kirk, in combination with the tasty hors d'oeuvres supplied by Executive Catering, Central Valley Catering, Bella Olives and P De Q, made this event an epicurean delight. But even with the lovely cool breezes and soft sunset, it was the cool jazz that made the evening so memorable. The jazz band, Danny Talob and the Jazztet, performed smoothly and flawlessly,



Providing the cool jazz was Fresno State's Danny Talob and the Jazztet, playing everything from classical to swing.

with old favorites that were recognized by most of the audience. The vocalist, Sharon Rogers, really captured everyone's heart when she sang "My Funny Valentine" in her clear vibrato voice.

Danny Talob and the Jazztet are local musicians and students at California State University Fresno, performing all genres of music from classical to swing. Their talent is definitely apparent to all who listened.

Many of those who attended lingered long after the sun set, enjoying the wine, talking with friends and enthusiastically expressing their interest in attending next year's Cool Jazz and Wine event.

The Friends of the Ranchos Library meet the first Thursday of every month at 6 p.m. at the Ranchos Library. Everyone is welcome.




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‘Hello’ from Ranchos’ New Librarian

By Garin Gonzales

It’s always tough to replace someone who has been a vital and vibrant part of something. Do you think it was easy for George Lazenby or Roger Moore to step into the role of 007 after Sean Connery moved on? No, I bet they were shaking in their Armani suits. When former branch manager Ellen Mester moved to the Madera County library to become the Managing Librarian and I was tapped to take her place I was filled with trepidation. Fortunately, the community has been gracious and welcoming to me and I am having a great time meeting all of the challenges that come with being a branch manager. There’s so much to do I haven’t had time to be too freaked out.

That said, I have a lot to report to you. Here goes.

Big Changes

Thanks to those of you who filled out our “How Are We Doing?” questionnaire. We got great responses and it sounds like the major change patrons would like to see most are different hours. We’re hoping to make it happen. Of course, the Board of Supervisors still have to approve the changes (and you know the wheels of bureaucracy grind ever so slowly) but we’re hoping to have new hours in place by November. Included are some hours on Saturday for those of you who are too busy to make it in during the weekday. Good things happen when the people speak! Another great change is that you can now pay fees and fines with a credit card through our Smart Pay system. Rolled out last month, Smart Pay allows you to use your home computer (or the computers at any of our branches) to pay your overdue fees or late fines with a credit or debit card. And don’t be frightened – from what I’ve seen the system is wonderfully user-friendly and convenient.

A Great Time

A big thank you to all who participated in the Cool Jazz and Wine event at Birdstone Winery on Sept. 17. The music was great, the food and wine were outstanding and all of the proceeds benefited the Ranchos library. It was sort of a win-win situation for everyone – except me: wine tends to make my head feel like it might explode. Still, the event was just intimate enough that everyone could enjoy each other’s company in a relaxed, jazzy atmosphere. Next time, we’re considering booking Metallica as the musical choice. Only kidding of course.

Storytime Back This Month

A lot of you have asked, so we’re happy to announce Preschool Storytime will be back each Thursday beginning in October. We would’ve had the program up and running sooner, but we had a little fall cleaning we had to take care of first. Diane Maxfield, our storytime leader extraordinaire, is ready to wow kiddies and parents alike with fun stories, games and activities. If you haven’t been to a storytime yet, they really are terrific. We’re also hoping to invite other guests to the library, specially scheduled around school holidays so we can have big turn-outs. First up, children’s author Jean Chaffee has agreed to stop by with great stories and visual aids about some of the more exotic animals at the Chaffee Zoo. It promises to be a fun time. Dates and times to come.

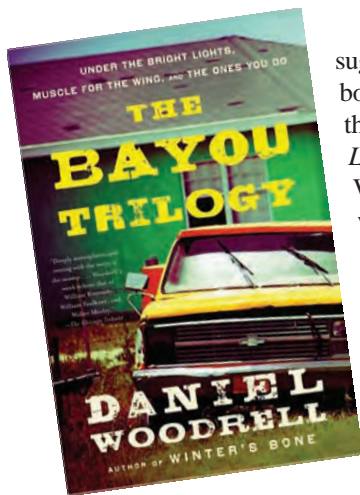
What I’m Reading

I’ve run a little long with this article so I’m just going to suggest one title. Next month’s article will have a little more book-chat. *The Bayou Trilogy* by Daniel Woodrell collects three of Woodrell’s early short novels, *Under the Bright Lights*, *Muscle for the Wing* and *The Ones You Do*. Woodrell might be best known for *Winter’s Bone*, which was adapted into last year’s Oscar-nominated movie. Woodrell has a singular voice, kind of a redneck Elmore Leonard, and although the stories in *The Bayou Trilogy* don’t match up to *Winter’s Bone* or his masterwork, *The Death of Sweet Mister*, they are well worth reading.

And finally ...

Although the questionnaire shed light on what our patrons want, we still need more feedback from you.

What other programs would you like to see at our library? What changes would you make if you were in charge? What books and authors would you like to see on our shelves? Remember, the Ranchos Library is your library. We appreciate helpful comments and suggestions and look forward to serving you. So stop by soon. And don’t forget your library card — don’t leave home without it.



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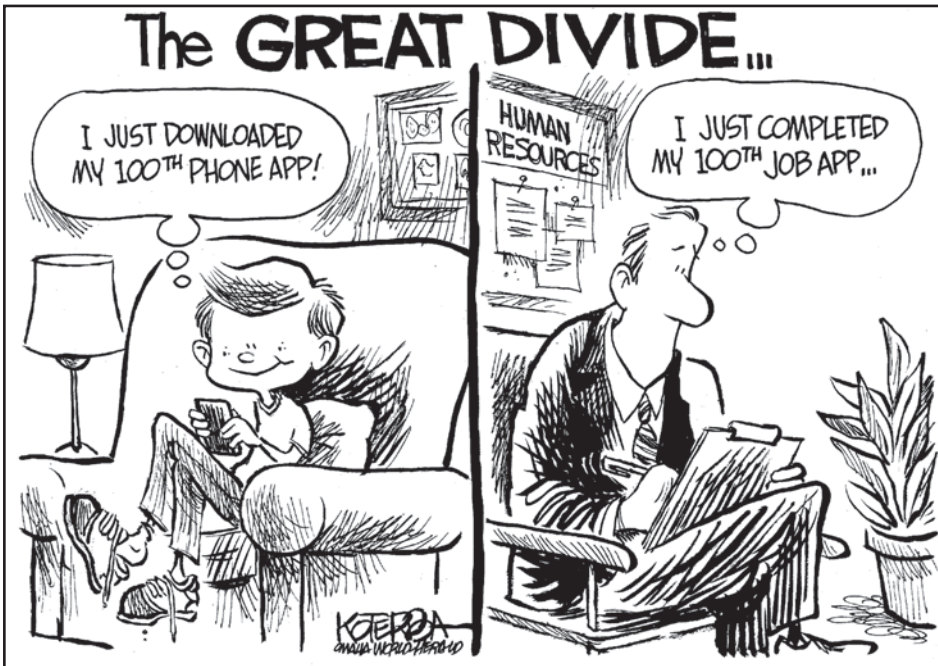
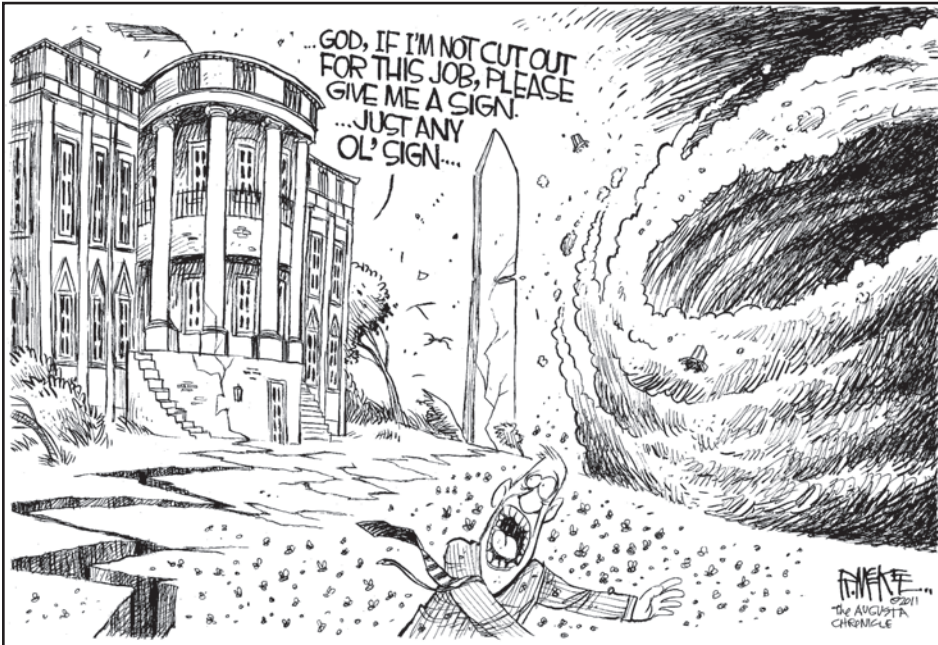
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Editorial

Newspaper 101

By Randy Bailey

I write this month's column as a public service. I've written this same column before at different points in the seven years that I've owned this paper, but it appears it is time again.

After my editorial last month where I asked the question, "What are YOU going to do about our water?" I received some letters. Some were good, some not so good, but they all shared readers' different views on the Liberty Groves meeting and, in particular, my views and observations about that meeting and subsequent questions about the Ranchos' water situation that is worsening WITHOUT Liberty Groves or any OTHER development. The water situation that WE are facilitating and the same one that no one wants to step up to the plate and address or take ownership. As an interesting sidenote, I asked one question: "What are YOU going to do about our water?" Know how many answers I got?

- None.
- Zero.
- Nada.

I had one person online (yeah, that's right ... I wrote an editorial in the paper and someone responded on Facebook. That's kind of like not liking the sound on the radio so you turn off the TV) get a little provocative

and verbally started poking his finger in my chest wanting to know what I was doing about our water, thereby missing the whole point of the editorial. I gave three specific examples of things that could be done (all of which I HAVE done) but the point was that we can no longer hide behind "They're taking our water," when the reality is that WE'RE taking our water with no plan for our future.

But I digress.

This editorial is entitled Newspaper 101, and that suggests that I want to share a very basic, fundamental rule of publishing: Unsigned letters go in the trash.

Oh I read them first, and often they are interesting to very interesting, but with no signature they are trash. Meaningless trash. Trash that absolutely no one else in the community will ever get to see. All of your clever little turns of a phrase or sarcastic digs or even heaps of praise for the finest paper in the Madera Ranchos are read by me and then thrown away.

"But I've seen letters from 'anonymous' or 'name withheld upon request' in papers before ..."

Yes you have. And do you know what all of those letters have in common? An editor who contacted someone, verified that it wasn't a letter sent by someone else who then affixed your name to it just to get you in trouble, and then, if requested, agreed to respect the writer's anonymity upon publication.

Simple.

I have to tell you, I don't think much of the "anonymous" crowd. Everything I write in this paper I stick my name on, right or wrong. I don't get to hide behind "name withheld upon request" and I personally think that if someone has something to say they should "man up" and say it. In concept, I don't see much difference between "anonymous" and taggers spraying their heartfelt messages on the side of a church or school. In both cases no one knows who wrote it and a key element of freedom of speech is lost: Responsibility.

The Ranchos Independent

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Randy Bailey.....Publisher/Editor

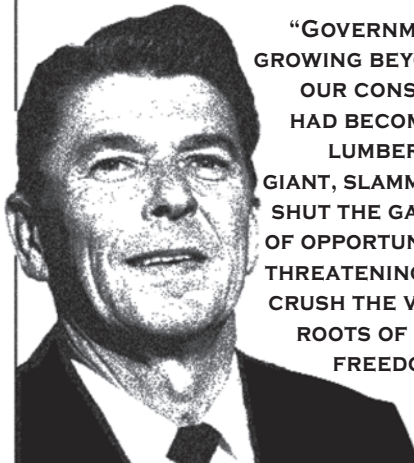
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REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR OUR PRESIDENT
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Beans Up the Nose

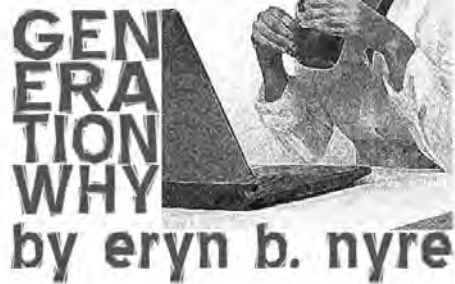
My father always called me a “bean up the nose” sort of girl, which was his version of a term of endearment. He used it to describe the fact that I seldom used the experience of others in my decision making process. Throughout my life, he would say, “Don’t put that bean up your nose, Eryn. I did it once when I was younger and it got stuck. You will have to go to the Emergency Room where a doctor is going to shove huge pliers up there to get it out. It is going to be painful and expensive, believe me.” Of course, I would never believe him. It was perfectly reasonable advice, but I wanted to think I was different, special, and the outcome would be different for me, which was never the case. Still, I would just stuff the bean right on up there anyway.

Now, I have never physically put anything up my nose, bean or otherwise, but the metaphor was spot on. People could stand before me waving banners and directional signs, screaming, “Stop! Dead end! Turn around! Don’t go this way or you will fall off

the cliff into the jagged rocks below!” Would I listen? Would I heed their advice? Would it make an interesting story if I did?

No.

Again, I thought it would be different for me, and rather than plummet to my death, I envisioned that I would step off the edge and magically glide across the ravine, landing softly in the greener grass on the other side. Contrary to my vision, I would step off the cliff and crash land at the bottom, of course way bruised and broken. This particular behavior isn’t exclusive to me, it is a relatively commonplace attitude among adolescents and those lost in the purgatory somewhere be-



tween being too old to be called a kid, but too irresponsible to be called an adult. I was no exception.

I shoved all kinds of proverbial beans up my nose, different shapes and sizes, all with similar results. It was always painful, often expensive and the cleanup was not pretty. I was trying to use this as an example a while back to

Experience does a funny thing to you: After years of crashing into rocks and tumbling off cliffs, one day someone tells a little anecdote about one of their experiences in life, and, just like that, something inside your head clicks and you think, “Well, I certainly don’t want to end up like this twit, so I think I’ll avoid making that particular mistake.”

one of my friends. She was young and had gotten her hands on her first credit card. Now, I was quite familiar with this bean for I had stuffed this one up both nostrils. I told my friend, “Stop! Dead end!” I explained that credit cards are seductive and misleading. They give you a sense of accom-

plishment; look at everything you have purchased with your hard earned plastic. You judge your success by the big-screen TV, the top-of-the-line computer, the brand-new furniture and the expensive sound system for your car. It sounds like a great deal, you buy the thousand dollar item and it only costs you 30 bucks a month. Of course, 10 of those run you \$300 each month, but no one ever thinks to do that math at the register. I warned my friend, the same thing happened to me, don’t use the card, and keep it at home for emergencies only. But, like me, she ignored my advice, took

Please see **GEN WHY** on P. 15

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The Stock Report

Golden Valley Foundation Stars Shine

By Audrey Stock

Hi neighbors,
 Well summer is over and fall is in the air. The kids are back to school and Halloween is just around the corner. I can see a little better as I write this article because I just had cataract surgery on my left eye. Now both of my eyes have lens implants. Oh the joy of getting old. If it will let me drive safely for a few more years I will be very pleased.

For the 11 years that Golden Valley Unified School District has been in business the district schools have accomplished above and beyond my dream for them. To help both schools and teachers accomplish the goals for their students are a group of community members that keep the Foundation for Golden Valley Schools operating. The Foundation for Golden Valley Schools held their 7th Annual "Stars" on Saturday, Sept. 10 at Birdstone Winery. This event is called "The Night

the Stars Come Out." The stars are the employees of Golden Valley Unified. The Foundation members turned Birdstone Winery into a beautiful background setting to make this a special night. The white tablecloths caught your attention as you walked into the permanent tent at Birdstone. Next was the delicious gourmet hors d'oeuvres served during the cocktail party at the beginning of the evening event. Then it was time to meet our "Stars." This was a well put together event with both Chairman Rich Jones and Superintendent Andy Alvarado keeping the program moving. There was a large screen where last year's Foundation grant-winning teachers showed how the grant money was used for equipment in their classrooms. Then it was time for 2011 Foundation grant winners to be recognized. All 14 happy teachers and teacher teams received Foundation grants that night. This was the most grants ever given by the Foundation for Golden Valley Schools. I am proud to be a part of the Foundation. Here is a list of teachers who re-

ceived the grant money: Melissa McPherson, Georgina Raymond, Kristi Forshee, Dennis Ready, Chelan Shepherd, Chris Simon, Crissy McElhaney, Fidi Cuevas, Nola Neely and Wendy McCulley, Jason Napier, Emily Mucciatti, Nicole Ullrich, Leslie Wood, Kandace Osborn and Mayer. Congratulations to these teachers for taking the time and effort to write the grants so that they could get this extra equipment for their classrooms. A total of \$19,537.05 in grants was given by the Foundation for Golden Valley Schools that night.

Foundation Info

Who are the members of the Foundation for Golden Valley Schools? They are community friends and neighbors who want to make a difference in the lives of the children in Golden Valley Unified. This year's slate of officers is:

Chairman
 Rich Jones
 Vice Chair-

man Stephanie McShane
 Secretary Aimee Beintker
 Treasurer Doug Reitz
 Past Chairman Ron Osborn
 Historian Audrey Stock
 Superintendent Sarah Koli-
 gian/Andy Alvarado
 School Board President Mark
 Toole

Would you like to be a member of the Foundation? Membership is open to any community member who would like to help make a difference for the students and teachers in Golden Valley Unified. Talk to any Foundation member or call the district office at 645-7500 and ask to talk to Aimee Beintker. The Foundation for Golden Valley Schools has given a total of \$47,787 plus the \$50,000 the Smith family donated for air conditioning for Sierra View Elementary School. For a fledgling Foundation I think this is awesome.

The other event that evening was when the Star Employees for 2011 for Golden Valley Unified were an-

Please see **STOCK** on P. 21

The Foundation for Golden Valley Schools has given a total of \$47,787 ... for a fledgling Foundation I think this is awesome.

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It's Time To Get Comfortable

9/11

Meat Free Variations

Recently we went out to Randy's after church for lunch. Rachael had made two pans of lasagna – one with meat (which was absolutely delicious) and the other meatless. Rachael is a vegetarian and pretty strict about it. So I decided this article will be dedicated to Rachael and as close to vegetarian as I can make it. It will be a challenge because I like meat, fowl and fish, cheese, eggs and all the rest of forbidden food of a vegetarian.

I read online that, "It's not just 'rabbit food' and alfalfa sprouts; today's vegetarian food is complex, and flavorful." In the Every Day is a Holiday book I've talked about in prior articles, October 1 is World Vegetarian Day.

My favorite vegetable dish is the zucchini casse-
role my sister makes for most family dinners. I'm not going to print the recipe in this issue as I've had it in two back issues. If you want it, let me know. In my Mom's recipe cards she had a couple of vegetable dishes that sound interesting.

Impossible Garden Pie

- 2 C Chopped Zucchini
- 1 C Chopped Tomatoes
- 1/2c Chopped Onion
- 1/3 C Grated Parmesan Cheese
- 1 1/2 C Milk
- 3/4 C Bisquick
- 3 Eggs
- 1/2 tsp. Salt
- 1/4 tsp. Pepper

Heat oven to 400. Lightly grease a 10' pie plate. Sprinkle zucchini, tomatoes, onions and cheese in bottom of pie plate. Beat remaining ingredients until smooth. About 15 seconds on high in a blender or about one minute with a hand mixer. Pour into pie plate. Bake until golden brown and a knife inserted in center comes out clean, about 30 minutes. Be careful not to over bake. Let stand 5 minutes before cutting. If using a 9" pie plate, decrease milk to 1 C, baking mix to 1/2 C and eggs to 2.

Cheesy Broccoli Rice Casserole
8 oz. Frozen Chopped Broccoli –



cooked for about 3 minutes in rapidly boiling water.

2 C White Minute Rice (Put rice in 2 cups boiling water, turn burner off, cover and let sit for 5 minutes).

2 Well Beaten Eggs

2/3 C Milk

1/2 C Oil

1 Can Cream of Chicken Soup **

1 Medium Onion – Chopped Fine
16 oz. (4 C) Shredded Cheddar Cheese

Salt, Pepper and Garlic Powder to taste

Heat oven to 325. Spray a 13x9x2

baking dish with baking spray, set aside. Cook and drain well the broccoli and cook and fluff the rice. In a large mixing bowl combine the eggs, milk, oil,

and soup. Add the chopped onion. Blend well. Add the cooked broccoli and rice, mixing well. (The broccoli and rice should be cooled slightly or you might get scrambled eggs.) Pour mixture into prepared baking dish. Bake for about one hour – if brown and bubbly remove from oven. It may take up to 1 1/2 hours, but watch carefully – don't overcook. **Recipe calls for Cream of Chicken soup, but a vegetarian might want to use Cream of Mushroom instead.

The following two recipes are from Rachael's favorites.

Vegetable Black-Bean Burgers

- 1 Can Black Beans (Drained)
- 1 Slice of an Onion
- 1 tsp. Cumin
- Garlic Salt
- Salt and Pepper to taste
- 1 C Shredded Cheese
- Hamburger buns
- American cheese

Sauté one slice of onion in butter until brown. In medium sized bowl crush the black beans. Add cumin,

Please see **RECIPE** on P. 20

Well, there you have it – I got through the article without using the four letter word "MEAT."

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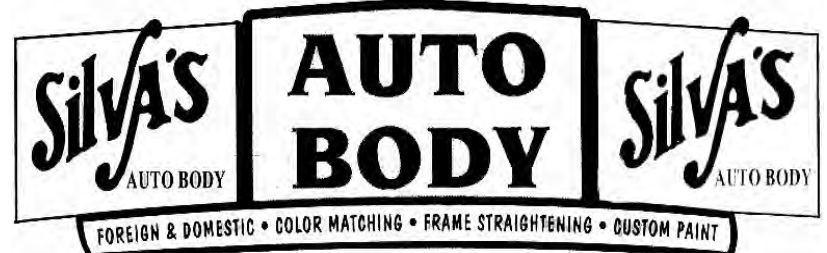
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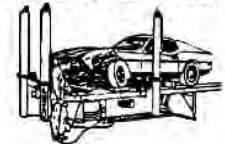


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Letters

Dear Editor:

After reading your last editorial, "What Are You Going to Do?" I agree with you 100 percent. While at the meeting for the Liberty Groves Project update, I was shaking my head about how some in the audience kept interrupting with rants they really knew little or nothing about. Some folks just have no respect for others. It eventually became a "it's my water" session, having little to do with the project itself. They certainly exposed their greediness.

When you attend any meeting, you would think the attendees know in ad-

vance what the meeting is about. Many people thought it was a "Town Hall Meeting" and asked why Supervisor Bigelow wasn't there. He didn't have to be there, this was a meeting called by the Planning Department only to explain the Liberty Groves project.

One of the complaints I heard was the recent increase in water rates for those on the Ranchos Water System. This had nothing to do with the meeting. Yes, there was an increase, the first in over 16 years. So instead of paying a dollar a day we're paying a whopping \$1.67 for all the water we want! I wish I could get gasoline that way! A lot of people don't know that they are

part owners in the Ranchos Water System; that \$50 per month goes into the water system fund, nowhere else. The county can't touch it except for the operation and maintenance of the Ranchos Water System.

What Liberty Groves is projecting is the multiple use of water; most people call it "recycling." Once water is used for daily household chores, it can then be cleaned and used for irrigating lawns and gardens and other things. That doesn't happen in the Ranchos; the water is used once then dumped in septic tanks or runs down the street. The system isn't designed for recycling water, but most people do make an effort to conserve. We all know of the homes that have water standing in front of them. These folks need to be cited. How can people like this be against a project that will be designed to save water? How hypocritical can they be? Before we start accusing someone of taking "our" water to recycle it, let's fix our problem first.

Everyone moving out here since day one wanted to be the last person to move here. If you moved here since September 14, 1983, maybe I didn't want you here.

Not really, I welcomed everyone who wanted the same lifestyle I was looking for, and I was hoping everyone would share in the water and not waste it. It belongs to everyone. Most folks conserve, but others are greedy and want it all. Some of those folks showed up at the Liberty Groves meeting and exposed their greediness. We all saw their true colors and now we know who they are.

Bill Whyman
28-year Madera Ranchos resident

Dear Editor:

I would like to take a moment and thank all of the administrators, teachers and chaperons who were at Calvin Crest with my sixth grade daughter this week. I am extremely pleased with the way the District handled the difficult situation. At all times during this unfortunate situation I felt they had the best interests of my child forefront. The call from Mr. Alvarado explaining the situation was enough information to put my mind at ease that my child was safe as well as everyone from our district. I don't think knowing the details of the counselors accident during the call would have been appropriate. I want to thank Mr. Imperatrice and Mr. Piedra for driving up to the camp the next morning and being the bearer of bad news to our children. They could have let the teacher do it but they showed leadership and character by deliv-

ering the news in person. A final kudos for the fine teachers and chaperons who had to spend the night knowing what was going to happen the next day but allowed the kids to enjoy the one night they had at Calvin Crest. I appreciate your caring and compassionate attitude toward our children.

On a final note. I want to thank all of the adults involved for not telling my daughter the entire details of the accident. I took it as a teaching moment to explain how precious life is and how even though she is disappointed about not being able to stay all week, the bigger picture here is that someone's life was cut too short.

Sincerely,
Micheala Ford
Madera Ranchos

Dear Editor:

We are a group of three nursing student from National University. We are currently taking Community Health and will be continuing this class until the end of November. In this class, we are required to choose a community to help through various means, which related to health or safety. Our group has chosen to help the Madera Ranchos, as two of our group members are long time residents to the area. How can we help the community? We are looking for events or organizations that may need help with education on safety, nutrition, health risks, illness prevention, or anything else that is related to health.

If your organization needs help, you may reach Denise, Rakayla, or Prince at drpcommhealth@gmail.com.

Rakayla Medina
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Report from Alaska; Laughlin Next

By Verlaine Elinburg

Ester Anderson had her 91st birthday on August 5. Usually it is something women never share but when you hit the nineties and are contributing to society, still in "so so" good health, driving, having fun, it is an accomplishment.

Ester's parents emigrated from Denmark and resided in the small town of Exira, Iowa. She had a brother and a sister but sadly her mother died shortly after the birth of her sister in 1921. Her father worked for the Standard Oil Company and the three children were supervised by housekeepers growing up. Tragedy struck when her father died shortly after her sixth birthday, resulting in the three children being separated and adopted by different families that lived in the same town and on the same street in Exira. They all graduated from the same high school and Ester continued her education and became a school teacher. She married Merle Anderson and they had two sons.

During their working years they resided in different towns but they chose the Madera Ranchos in which to retire. Ester read about the Senior Center in the local papers and attended the Garden Meeting where she was welcomed with open arms by the members and that was the beginning of her association with the Ranchos/Hills Senior Center. She has held several offices starting with the Hot Lunch program for which she was in charge of the administrative duties. Later as Secretary she maintained the scheduling of all meetings and initiated the newsletter, of which she is still the editor.

She also put into place the Story Hour for the young kids at the Ranchos Library. At present she is a representative on the Council on Ageing and to date she has held every office in the Ranchos/Hills Senior Center organization except for Treasurer. In 2008 the Madera County Board of Supervisors awarded Ester with an appreciation plaque as Volunteer of the Year.

Trip to Alaska

The Ranchos/Hill Seniors began their trip to Alaska on August 10. The Trip began from Vancouver, British Columbia, where they glided under the Lion's Gate

Bridge. They relaxed and enjoyed the wonders of the inside passage where deep blue rivers of ice calve mammoth icebergs into the ocean and mighty humpback whales breach from the sea. They also enjoyed the stunning beauty of tide waters, breath taking mountains and waterfalls of Tracy Arms, Sawyer Glaciers and Juneau, the capital of Alaska. In Skagway they boarded the nostalgic gold rush railcars for dramatic scenery through the White Pass, an integral part of the Historic Klondike Trail. The group continued via Explorer Coach into

Canada to Whitehouse, the capital of Yukon. On the way to Beaver Creek they visited the sled dog kennel, meet the dogs and attended the summer sled dog demonstration and enjoyed the famed Yukon Rendezvous Dinner show. From Beaver creek they enjoyed the scenic highway that travelled past the lakes and mountains of the Kluane National Park as they moved on to Fairbanks, about as far from civilization as



Joann from the Ranchos/Hills Senior Center gets a firsthand look at Alaska during the Center's recent trip there.

Please see SENIOR on P. 19

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Commissioner

City of Madera Area (Board of Supervisors District 3 and 4)



Madera County's children of today will be our leaders of tomorrow ... help First 5 Madera County invest in the future of our children.

First 5 is recruiting for a Commissioner - Madera Ranchos Area and City of Madera Area, to participate in the distribution of \$2 million annually to fund programs that focus on getting Madera's youngest children ready for school.

If you live in the Madera Ranchos Area or City of Madera Area and are interested in shaping the community, contact Mang at 661-5155 or pick up an application at 525 E. Yosemite.

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The Pastor's Desk

Hope in the Midst of Affliction

Again this month we have a guest writer for the Pastor's Desk. He is not a pastor but he has a message. With approximately 17.6 million Americans adults who abuse alcohol or are alcohol dependent, his message is timely and relevant.

Editor

By Mike B.

I have hope: Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is our faithfulness. I say to myself, 'The Lord is my portion; therefore I will wait for him.' The Lord is good to those whose hope is in him, to the one who seeks him; it is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord."

Hope

As I go through the walk of a now-sober life, I cling to hope. Without hope nothing is possible and when nothing is possible then why would I want to go on?

Endurance is not a common quality. Many people lack the long-term commitment, caring and willingness that is vital to sticking with a task against all odds. In the Bible, Jeremiah was a prophet who endured. Jeremiah's call by God teaches us how intimately God knows us, although Jeremiah earned the title "Weeping Prophet" in the

*Remember that all God wants for you is good. If things aren't good, take a look – are they your plans or His? Hope is only a prayer away.
 A while ago I was a hopeless dope fiend; now I'm a dopeless hope fiend.*

midst of what he lived through and saw he had the ability to endure. What gave him his endurance? Hope! The hope that can only be found in God's love, mercy and grace.

In Lamentations 3, while witnessing what the land of Judah was going through, Jeremiah wrote, "I am the man who has seen affliction by the rod of his wrath. He has driven me away and has made me walk in darkness rather than the light; indeed, he has turned against me again and again, all day long ... I have been deprived of peace; I have forgotten what prosperity is. So I say, 'My splendor is gone and all that I had hoped for from the Lord' I remember my affliction and my wandering, the bitterness and the gall. I well remember them, and my soul is downcast within me. Yet this I call to mind and therefore

Relying on God

What this passage means to me is that when I rely on myself there is no hope. Jeremiah speaks of God's wrath. God's wrath is very simple: Nothing can or will ever separate us from the love of God. He will always love us no matter what we do. His wrath is our own self-will. We rely on SELF. So, he lets things happen to us. God does not cause these things. WE DO! Of our selfishness and self-centeredness, God says, in paraphrase, "You want it your way? Have it your way. When you can't stop sinking in the sand that is you, I'll be here with the rock that you can stand

on." If you continue to go without God, you will always continue in the same direction and that direction is hopelessness. In other words you always get what you always got, because you always do what you've always done.

William Booth states, "The measure of a man's power can be found in the measure of his surrender." You want power, freedom and serenity? Surrender and you can have that and more. Remember that all God wants for you is good. If things aren't good, take a look – are they your plans or His? Hope is only a prayer away.

A while ago I was a hopeless dope fiend; now I'm a dopeless hope fiend.

Until next time,

Mike B.

**Say you saw it in
 the Ranchos Independent**

First 5 Invests \$10K in Home Libraries

Reading, talking and playing with your children is key to school success. Yet, approximately 46 percent of families surveyed through the First 5 Family Survey “did not” read to their children because they did not have books in their home. That is why First 5 Madera County sponsors the annual “Growing Family Libraries” event in Madera, Chowchilla, Madera Ranchos and Oakhurst which puts books in the hands of children and enhances early literacy experiences at home. Each family participating in the “Growing Family Library” event took part in a 30-minute workshop that focused on developmentally appropriate literacy techniques.

In exchange for the parents’ participation in the workshop, First 5 Madera County provided each family with a \$50 voucher to be spent toward books. The First 5 Family Resource Center contracted with Schwabe Books (a book vendor) to supply books for the families to choose from following the workshop.

Regular book-sharing time provides a context for parents to introduce new words by labeling objects. It also provides for parent-child discussions about book content and allows the children to practice new

words that express ideas. Further, regular library visits and books in the home can raise children’s interest in the written words. “With this small project, we invested \$10,000 into 148 homes serving 157 children 0-5 years of age throughout the county. The training attended by the parents will have positive impacts throughout the child’s lifetime,” said Chinayera Black Hardaman, Executive Director of First 5 Madera County.

Four helpful tips when reading to your child: 1) Introduce books to your child by explaining the front, back, spine, title, and author; 2) Engage your child, when reading a book to them by asking them about the book; 3) Repeat/echo information back and forth with your child, and 4) Read to your child a minimum of 30 minutes every day. To ensure that all families have an opportunity to grow their libraries, the First 5 Family Resource Center will also provide books to families that participate in weekly “Story Time” activities.

For more information about literacy and parent education opportunities or to learn more about First 5 Madera County, please call 559-661-5155 or visit us at www.first5madera.net.

Ranchos Softball Team makes Finals

On August 4 the Liberty Ranchos Gold 10 & Under softball team took part in the 2011 State Games of America in San Diego. This was the culmination of a winning Travel Ball season that had the Gold winning 11 of their last 12 games. During the season, the girls learned new skills and honed old ones from their three coaches, George Valdez, Jack Ahart and Mike Burgess.

The Coaches, nine of 11 players, and parents caravaned to San Diego and took part in the opening ceremonies which were held in Qualcomm Stadium, (home of the San Diego Chargers). The ceremonies are patterned after the Olympics and included a marched entry onto the playing field by the athletes before making their way to the

stands.

The team won its first game 5 to 4 Friday afternoon and was in great shape in the overall standings with a bye until the next day. The second game was a heart-breaking loss of 6 to 7 with a walk-off run by the opposing team. The third game followed immediately after the second, which is always difficult given the short time to recoup from the previous game. The girls stuck it out, but fell short with their second and final loss.

While the team didn’t place, they had an amazing time and unforgettable experience. They represented themselves and our community with class and great sportsmanship. Way to go Gold. We’re so proud of you!

CASINO cont. from P. 2

this project was clearly a major factor in this decision. The North Fork project was certainly a community and not just a tribal project. So congratulations to all of us are in order!

Lastly, as the decision indicates, our work is not done. This is a huge step but several important steps remain where we will need your assistance. Accordingly, we plan to get back with you soon regarding

how we can work together to finish the task before us – which just got a whole lot more clear, positive and fun.

We apologize for not being able to contact each of you personally regarding the details of this announcement. As always, please do not hesitate call me or the Tribal Council if you have any questions, suggestions or issues.

Thanks again and cheers!

Charlie



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By Brenda McElroy

Your Junk/Their Treasure

Yard saling is another thing I love about The Ranchos! Unlike Fresno, it has natural boundaries that are just the right size for making the rounds on a Saturday morning and still arrive back at home in time for waffles.

You may think yard saling is an unlikely hobby for a Professional Organizer. Let me reassure you that you won't find me arriving at home with a car full of stuff I don't need. (Well, my husband might disagree with that at times.) You will find me getting incredible deals on things I was going to purchase anyway, or things I wanted, but couldn't afford new. Ask me sometime

about the TV deal I swapped for a chest freezer.

There's a very faithful yard saling Ranchos society, so if you're planning to de-clutter, or just need some extra cash, you're in the right place. Here are some tips on how to organize your sale.

Tips for the Sale

First, make it worth stopping for. If you don't have much stuff on your own, invite family members or neighbors to join in. Even if it's just your stuff, enlist the help of a family member or friend so there's always one person besides the cashier to help and, yes, keep an eye on things.

Begin preparation by saving some grocery bags and newspapers to pack breakables. Make a trip to the bank for ones and coins to use as change. Use a fanny pack or carpenter's apron to store your money rather than a cash box.

Create sturdy yard sale signs with eye-catching, easy-to-read bold print. An address without an arrow means nothing to someone that isn't familiar with the area so make sure to include large arrows on your signs with additional arrows at every turn. Also include

the date of the sale so people know it's not a sign from two weeks ago. Be sure to comply to sign posting rules and remove your signs immediately following your sale.

You can advertise your sale in the classifieds of the Ranchos Independent by calling 645-0634 or by email at ranchosnews@yahoo.com. Craig's List (www.craigslist.org) is also a popular place for people to find local yard sales. If you advertise be prepared for people waiting on your driveway the morning of the sale. If you choose not to advertise, you can set up and put your signs out that morning, so you're ready when the shoppers arrive.

Borrow folding tables if needed and get as much up off the ground as possible. Create departments or sections like kitchen items, sports, clothing, books, games, tools, etc. This helps your shoppers that are looking for a specific item and in general looks more appealing from the street. Put a few of

your choice items out front to lure in customers.

Place books, CDs and DVDs in shallow boxes with their spines showing so titles can be easily read. Hang clothes whenever

possible. A couple ladders with a pole or string works.

More Tips

I don't recommend pricing every item, but that's an option if you prefer. Having groups of items with a sign, i.e. "Shirts/Pants \$1 each" or "Paperbacks 25¢ or 5 for \$1" is less complicated. Remember that your goal is to unload your goods, so price to sell, but give yourself a little bargaining room at the start.

Set up some background music so it's not awkward when there's just one or two quietly roaming through your sale. Have an extension cord and batteries available for people to test items they want to purchase.

Make plans to end your sale with a trip to your favorite charity thrift store and trade your leftovers for a tax deduction. See you at your yard sale!

You can contact Brenda McElroy to have questions answered at Organized by Choice (because things don't always fall into place) at P.O. Box 26152, Fresno, CA 93729, email her at info@organizedbychoice.com, visit her website www.organizedbychoice.com or she can be reached by phone at 559-871-3314.



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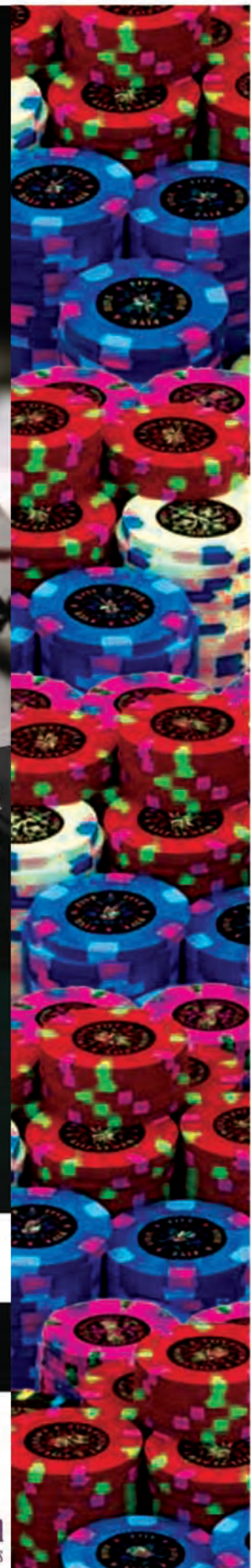
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GEN WHY cont. from P. 6

that bean and stuffed it right up her little nose.

Recently, she came to me crying, and said that I had been right all along. She racked up nearly 20 grand trying to buy herself a little happiness. She told me that she wished she would have listened to me.

I knew that feeling all too well.

Experience does a funny thing to you: After years of crashing into rocks and tumbling off cliffs, one day someone tells a little anecdote about one of their experiences in life, and, just like that, something

inside your head clicks and you think, "Well, I certainly don't want to end up like this twit, so I think I'll avoid making that particular

mistake." And there it is: The moment of clarity that thins the veil between immaturity and true adulthood. I was hoping to have been that click to her, but at least now she is working two jobs to make her ends meet, and let me say, that is probably one bean that won't get anywhere near

her nose again.

It would certainly help things if we could locate the little genetic defect that pops up after puberty.

And there it is: The moment of clarity that thins the veil between immaturity and true adulthood.

The chromosome that make young people think they are always right, and no one else has a clue. If scientists could locate that, then possibly they could sever it before we all had a chance to get out there and do something stupid like become a teen mom, drop out of high school

or college, rack up a ton of credit card debt, etc. There would certainly be a lot more educated, financially stable people out there.

That genetic defect isn't permanent in most people, though. Many work to become responsible, productive members of society. As for me, I no longer feel the need to make every mistake for myself. I learn from the experience and wisdom of others, and their advice and knowledge play an enormous role in my decision making process.

And although I still make mistakes, I no longer feel the need to stuff anything up my nasal cavity.



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Meet Your New Golden Valley Unified Teachers for the 2011 -2012 School Year

By Alyssa Stratakis and Patricia Felix

Golden Valley Unified School District welcomed six new teachers to open the 2011-2012 school year. In addition, two former Golden Valley Unified educators were

promoted to administrative positions.

Chris Imperatrice, a vice-principal at Sierra View Elementary last year, is the new principal at Sierra View Elementary.

Frank Panian, a math teacher at Liberty is the school's newest learning director.

In addition, Michael McDonald, Mia Zavorek and Katelynn Peek are newcomers at Webster Elementary. Michael Erickson, Anne Katuin and Lisa Cartwright are new teachers at Liberty.

Lisa Cartwright

Cartwright will fill in for the departed Panian, who moved to administration in the math department.

Cartwright, who previously worked as a substitute teacher at Educational Options, will teach algebra and geometry.

"I want to get to know my students and talk with them," Cartwright said. "I want to help them with their work and get to know them on a different level."

She said she received help from a number of people, including Mann, Panian, fellow math teachers Renee Harris and Charles Brooks and activities director Sarah Burress.

"They are all amazing people," Cartwright said. "It's great working here." In her spare time Cartwright loves to cook, bake and make cards.

Michael McDonald

McDonald is in his sixth year of teaching, beginning at Valley Teen Ranch and is a fifth grade teacher at Webster.

He began teaching as a teacher's assistant and later assumed the role as the head teacher.

After a year at Valley Teen Ranch, he spent a year at Madera High as a math intervention teacher. He spent the last three years as a math coach and instructional coach at Fresno Unified.

He was the head girls basketball coach at Madera in his one year and then assisted the previous three years. McDonald has coached basketball for the past 13 years.

"I enjoy working with young kids and high school students and seeing the effect I can have in shaping their lives," he said. "I have already experienced just a small sample of what this great school district has to

offer and I am proud to be a Wolverine."

Mia Zavorek

Zavorek is back in teaching full time after taking time off to raise her three children. She will teach sixth grade at Webster.

Zavorek began her teaching career at Adams Elementary in Madera Unified where she taught sixth grade. After four years she had a child and decided to teach part-time.

Recently, she was a reading intervention teacher for Fresno Unified School District and worked with students in grades 1-6.

"My focus has always been on the upper grade students and that is where most of my experience lies," Zavorek.

Zavorek has three children, Brady (8), Beckett (6) and Arden (4) with Andy, her husband of almost 12 years.

"Our children keep us very busy with ballet, soccer, baseball and all of the other practices that go along with that," she said. "We love it and wouldn't have it any other way."

Zavorek enjoys traveling to the beach, making bows and flowers, going to the gym, reading and crafting. The entire family are Boston Red Sox fans.

"I am so excited to be a teacher at Webster," Zavorek said. "I want to thank everyone for all of the support. I feel very welcomed here."

Mike Erickson

Erickson, who used to be an information's systems manager, is the newest Liberty High School science teacher. He will be teaching physics and chemistry.

Before he arrived at Liberty, Erickson was shown around campus by Chris Imperatrice. He also received help from fellow science teacher Fidi Cuevas and the front office staff — principal Kuljeet Mann and Tanya Hudson.

Please see **TEACHERS** on P. 17

Click on "Local News" at

Foundation Holds Annual Event

More than \$19,000 worth of grants were handed out during the Foundation for Golden Valley Schools' seventh annual Stars event at Birdstone Winery.

Along with the grants, the Foundation also honored 2011 STAR Employees of the year at the event on Sept. 10.

According to organizers, the turnout was wonderful, the ambiance was beautiful, the food was delicious, the music was entertaining, the raffle prizes were fantastic and the company was great.

One of the Foundation's major goals is to give back to the educational community in the form of new teacher grants and classroom grants. The Foundation has given more than \$97,000 in grants to support our teachers and students.

The 2011 grants were all funded 100 percent thanks to the Foundation and the contributions from business partners, who helped make it possible to full fund each grant. Here are the teachers that received grants.

- Melissa MacPherson
Document Camera \$585.00
- Georgina Raymond
Document Camera \$585.00
- Krisit Forshee
Document Camera and Projector \$1,050.00
- Dennis Ready
Document Camera and Projector \$1,200.00
- Chelan Shepherd
Document Camera and Projector \$1,245.00
- Chris Simon
Document Camera and Projector \$1,050.00
- Crissy McElhaney

- Computer Lab
- Headphones \$139.65
- Fidi Cuevas
Student Response Systems \$2,015.00
- Nola Neely & Wendy McCully
Smartboards \$3,512.00
- Jason Napier
A/V Recording Studio \$2,500.00
- Emily Mucciante
Reading Lab Comprehension Games \$862.39
- Nicole Ullrich
Cow Eye Dissection \$593.01
- Leslie Wood
Athletic Pitching Machine \$1,500.00
- Osborn/Mayer
Relocate Promethean Boards at SV to classroom and purchase Active Response System \$2,700.00

In addition, the Foundation honored five employees who were chosen as Golden Valley Unified School District's best in 2011.

- Administrator of the Year- Felipe Piedra
- Elementary Teacher of the Year- Chelan Shepherd
- Secondary Teacher of the Year- Frank Panian
- Operational Employee of the Year- Gail Allen
- Instruction Employee of the Year- Nicola Lambert

Piedra will also be honored in October as the Administrator of the Year for Madera County at the Madera County Excellence in Education awards ceremony.



Ranchos Middle Schoolers Shake, Rattle & Roll at Back to School Dance



Ranchos Middle School students dance to the music at the Back to School Dance that was held on Sept. 8.

TEACHERS cont. from P. 16

"I love it here," Erickson said. "I love teaching physics and chemistry. I like doing the hands-on activities and when students score high on tests."

In his spare time Erickson enjoys playing tennis and working out along with some resistance training.

Anne Katuin

Katuin returns to the scene of where it all started. She is one of the first Liberty High School graduates to return to teach at Liberty.

A 2006 Liberty graduate, she returns to the school to teach algebra and agriculture science.

She graduated from Cal Poly-San Luis Obispo and majored in agricultural science.

"I am looking forward to telling my students that algebra and agriculture is very important," Katuin said. "I like being back. It's really cool to work with the teachers I had when I was here."

In her spare time, Katuin enjoys riding horses, going camping and other outdoors stuff.

Chris Imperatrice

Imperatrice began teaching when Golden Valley Unified first started. He was

born and raised in the Madera Ranchos and will now lead the school he attended -- Sierra View Elementary -- as its principal.

He was a social science teacher at Liberty and the football coach for five years where he led the team to a No. 1 seed in the Central Section Division V playoffs. The Hawks advanced to the semifinals of the playoffs two years in a row.

He then stepped down as football coach and became a learning director at Ranchos Middle School/Liberty High School and vice-principal at Sierra View Elementary for the past three years.

Katelynn Peek

Peek is a Yosemite High School graduate, teaching kindergarten at Webster. She is originally from Bass Lake and graduated from Fresno Pacific University with honors. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree in liberal studies and has a multiple subject teaching credential.

"I have wanted to be a teacher since the third grade when my teacher changed my life," Peek said. "I hope to change the world through education. I love children and I love learning."

In addition to being the valedictorian at Yosemite, Peek also played volleyball and soccer and ran cross country.

"I now train for and run marathons," Peek said. "I'm a family girl. I love being around my family friends. I have a lot of energy and I like to eat a lot."

Grandparents Come Out to Webster

More than 500 people participated in Webster's Grandparents Day celebration on September 9.

Webster principal Felipe Piedra said there were 518 participants this year, a significant increase over last year's total.

Piedra and the Webster Parent

Teacher Club would like to thank all of the volunteers who made the day a huge success. They are: Michelle Barnes, Kim Carson, Leslie Alesi, Janeen Best, Megan Boatwright, Shellie Deniz, Jodi Reitz, Becky Koop, Kristi Prater, Lisa Luce, Brandy Bilskey, Maria DeSoto, Guillermo Saenz and Damian Carranza.



M.J. Gilio is a 5th grade



Blanca Saenz is a 1st grader here at Webster and she is accompanied by her grand- is with her Mother Patricia 4th grader and they are with son Jojo Januse who is a Saenz.



Nicholas Mott is a 2nd grader, his sister Hannah is a 4th grader and they are with their grandmother Carole Mott kindergartner here at Webster.

New to Liberty, New to America

By Alexis Newman
LHS Yearbook/Journalism Staff

Liberty has the pleasure of having four foreign exchange students this season — junior Aigerim Kapar Kyzy and seniors Lene Stensbo, Kathleen Behrens and Caspar Moser.

Aigerim is from Kyrgyzstan which is in Central Asia. She knows four languages, plays tennis, and is interested in

playing basketball in the winter. She also enjoys dancing, listening to music and attending her art and Spanish classes at Liberty.

Aigerim said that at her school, there is only first grade through eleventh grade; all students stay in the same class and the teachers change instead of all the students. Aigerim is here

Please see **EXCHANGE** on P. 18

Sierra View Elementary Spirit Rally Fun



Emily Mayer competes in a relay that involved dressing up and chewing gum at Sierra View Elementary during a Spirit Rally on Sept. 2.

Science Teacher Changes His Life

By Sierra Wilson

There is a point in one's life where one makes the realization that there needs to be a change. Whether it is to improve one's life, or the life of someone else, it is a choice everyone must face. Liberty High School science teacher Tim Hayes made that realization three years ago when he decided to better himself while helping out others through raising money for leukemia and lymphoma.

Hayes' decision came upon him in 2008, when he noticed that being 55 years old and 309 pounds could possibly be a factor of continuing to teach students and getting to participate in the lives of his grandchildren over the years. He knew something needed to be done, so he began training and running for half-marathons. As he completed and ran eight different half-marathons, he noticed it might be a bit easier and more beneficial to get involved with triathlons.

A triathlon consists of three different endurance activities: swimming, bicycling, and running. This demanding event is a large commitment that requires diligent

preparation and training. Hayes spent over five hours a day over the course of several months preparing his mind and body for the event. All for a good cause: research money for blood cancer and improving his health. The decision to do a triathlon gave him the drive to find a team to compete with, which ended up being the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Team In Training, an endurance sports training program that gives its athletes' raisings to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Hayes' encouragement to raise money for cancer research was inspired by his father-in-law who had passed from lymphoma and his sister who is a breast cancer survivor.

The Triathlon at Pacific Grove, Hayes' first and most recent triathlon, was an Olympic distanced event. It began at 7:30 a.m., September 10, when all the teams were separated by their age and gender, which also decided the time the teams would begin their events.

His team consisted of six members, each meeting their goals, including Hayes, who raised \$3,325, \$425 more than his goal of \$2,800.

Hayes had to start his course with two swim laps, equaling almost a half a mile. The swim involved jumping in at Lover's Point Beach and making triangular laps around the bay.

After the swim, the athletes had to

begin their 6.2 mile bicycle course, which took them along the Pacific Grove coastline, and last was the run. The runners had to start at Lover's Point and proceed down Ocean View, totaling 6.2 miles, or three laps.

Hayes finished all three legs in good time; his swim lasted just over 41 minutes, his bike ride lasted just over a hour-and-a-half, and his run was finished in one hour, 22 minutes. All together his time was three hours, 41.40 minutes.

This most definitely was not easy, but as Hayes said, "I felt very tired and very ac-

complished afterward."

His next event will be Nov. 6 in the Two Cities Marathon in Fresno and Clovis that also raises money for different cancer associations such as the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, Children's Hospital Central California, and the Sierra Challenge Express Scholarship Fund.

Hayes is not giving up on his training, doing his marathons and triathlons, and helping raise money for others. After all his marathons, Hayes weighs in at 238 pounds, and says he feels great.

EXCHANGE cont. from P. 17

to improve her English, to travel, and to learn more about American culture. When asked what she enjoys saying in her language she replied, "Jipeuecmwo," which means wonderful. Aigerim finds the American education system difficult but enjoys all of her classes here.

Stensbo is from Norway and stays with the Isolano family. She is here to improve her English, enjoy the adventure of a new country and to explore new things. She is not currently in a sport but hopes to play basketball during the winter season.

In Stensbo's education system there are only three tests a year, homework is assigned but no credit is awarded and there are also 13 grades instead of 12. She said that the classes are so different but she does like them. Lene told us that "Kjorlighet" means love in Norwegian.

Liberty also has two foreign exchange students from Germany. Behrens is from Hamburg, Germany and stays with senior Jacci O'Keefe and her family. She likes the O'Keefes

and enjoys her classes and the school environment.

Behrens plays tennis, likes to swim and go shopping. Her favorite class is ROP Sports Medicine.

Behrens says that in Germany she has two more years of school when she goes back to Hamburg. She is here to improve her English and see how life is in America, although she misses attending parties on the weekends.

Moser is from Berlin, Germany, and is the only male foreign exchange student at Liberty. He is staying with the Kaczmarek family and says they are very nice. He says it is pretty cool that he just turned 16 and is a senior this year. Moser runs cross country and hopes to play soccer in the winter and tennis in the spring.

Although Moser does not have Charles Brooks as a teacher, he is his favorite because he is the nicest teacher Moser has met. Moser said that at his school he would go to different classes everyday, bringing the total to 15 classes a week. He misses playing soccer with his team and going to parties on the weekend.

Liberty is proud to have four foreign exchange students as an addition to the school this year, and the students are ready for a year to learn the English language and experience the American way of life.



Senior Lene Stensbo is from Norway.



Kathleen Behrens is a senior from Hamburg, Germany.



Junior Aigerim Kapar Kyzy from Kyrgyzstan in Central Asia.

BBQ cont. from P. 2

pudding.

New to this year's event the Ginz Photo Booth was a huge hit. Party goers had the opportunity to put on hilarious accessories (feather boas, huge glasses, hats and even fake noses) before taking instant pictures in the photo booth while others just chose to pose and snuggle with their honey. Music was provided by the Cadillac Cowboys for those who wanted to dance the night away.

Senior Volunteer Fire Captain Chuck Hoover, who has volunteered at Station 19 for 34 years now, was delighted with the record turnout this year. Hoover wanted to thank "... the entire Ranchos Community for their continuing support to raise money to keep our community and our children safe." Hoover explained that, "Although the station already had a Jaws of Life, it was about 20 years old and weighed over 700 lbs. It was definitely time for an upgrade. This has been a big problem for us because Fire Station 19 has just one paid Firefighter position. Everyone else is a volunteer. It's a real possibility that the paid Firefighter could be on the scene of an accident, however he wouldn't be able to use the old Jaws

of Life without backup just because of the weight of that piece of equipment. The new unit is lightweight and more powerful."

Both Farr and Hoover want to thank everyone who helped put this fundraiser together. Sponsors for this year's event include: Mark and Peggy Borba, Vulcan Materials, Pistoressi Ambulance, Chukchansi Resort, Gateway Village, San Joaquin River Ranch, Jerry Edding's Real Estate, Marie Calendar, Chick-fil-A, and the Pizza Factory. They would also like to thank Tom and Alice Schevenell, Tina Najarian, the Ranchos Kiwanis, the Ranchos Lions and each of the many the volunteers that worked diligently behind the scenes for their assistance in making this event a success. "Thanks also go out to the entire Madera Ranchos Community who supports this event every year!" they said.

"It's reassuring to know that safety is possible in our community. This event gets bigger and better every year. It's truly a fun community event," said Farr. If you haven't gone in the past, please put it on your calendar for next year. The 2012 event will be held on Saturday, August 18 at the Borba Ranch. For information about next year's event please contact Debbie Farr at 559-801-7703.

Ranchos 4-H Info

By Anahi Rivera

Sierra Shadows 4-H club is gearing up for another big year. The Club Officers attended the officer's training session which was held at the 4-H office. They came away from the training with some great information, great ideas and they also made some new friends. The officers are off to a great start as they have planned out this year's calendar which they say is full of exciting new things.

The Madera County Fair is over and the members of the Sierra Shadows 4-H club worked hard all summer long in order to get their animals in good condition to make weight and saw their animals receive some top bids at auction time. Some members even en-

tered some of the still exhibits.

Our next big event the members are looking forward to is 4-H Achievement Night/Officer Installation which is held in October and will kickoff National 4-H week. At this event, officers are installed to their club positions and members will receive special recognition awards. During this week the public may see window displays at various locations showing the various projects 4-H has to offer.

Youth between the ages of 9 to 18 years old may join 4-H. The Sierra Shadows 4-H club leader is Terri Fernandez, who can be reached at 559-645-4836. Her email is trferandez@yahoo.com. The next club meeting will be held at Sierra View Elementary School cafeteria in October so give Terri a call for the specific day and time and we'll see you there.

SENIORS cont. from P. 10

you can get, with the amazing sights of a wild life refuge, mountains and the Trans-Alaskan Pipeline. At the El Dorado Gold Mine a gold rush history was presented along with its historic gold dredge and the Ranchos travellers discovered panning for gold.

There is no place wilder, more rugged and breathtakingly beautiful than Denali National Park. It is home to wildlife including moose, bears, a variety of birds, grey wolves and an abundant amount of golden eagles. The journey ended with a train trip back to Anchorage and then the return trip back home to the Ranchos.

Happenings at the Senior Center

The Department of Health comes periodically to the Center for free checkups. The screenings include: Personal health history review, blood pressure and blood sugar test, nutrition and health education and a low-cost blood test is available. The health screenings are for 50 and above. For referrals to medical providers and community services, the contact number is 675-7893 to make an appointment.

A nutritionally balanced lunch program is available Monday through Friday at 11:30 a.m. A suggested price for 60 years and older is \$1.75. Reservations are needed 24 hours in advance prior to 11 a.m. so remember to call Joann at 645-4864.

We have a growing exercise program being held on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 10 a.m. The participants are getting more than just exercise by attending. They have fun, share laughs, meet new friends and get updates on old friends. There is room for you and you may attend all three days or just one or two of them.

New to the agenda on Tuesday at 12:30 p.m. are a variety of cards games to be enjoyed. Come and learn new games.

Check your calendar for daily events

for each day of the week. If you do not have a copy, stop by the Senior Center for a copy. Additional copies are available at the Ranchos Market and Hurst Hardware.

The Farmers Market at the Center has a variety of vegetables and fruits, jams and jellies are available and the Boutique has many "on the spot needed" gift items.

Dates for Your Calendar

Friday, Sept. 30: Deposit due - Laughlin Trip - Nov. 6 to Nov. 10, Laughlin, Nevada. Only 30 seats are available so sign up ASAP.

Saturday, Oct. 1: Christmas Pre-Christmas Sale - Boutique from 8 a.m. to noon.

Saturday, Oct. 1: Monthly Ranchos/Hills Sale - Bake, Boutique, Plants, Produce and Treasure House.

Tuesday, Oct. 4: Board Meeting at 6 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 10: Center Closed, General Meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 11: Final payment for Laughlin Trip.

Thursday, Oct. 13: Flu Shot, Liberty High School. Drive Through 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Saturday, Oct. 15: Birthday and Anniversaries, Yukon Jacks, 6833 No. Golden Gate Blvd., Fresno. 559-276-7797. 11:30 a.m.

Monday, Oct. 17: Planning Meeting at 12:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 25: Student nurses from National University will be at the Senior Center at 10:45 a.m.

October Events

M-W-F - 10 a.m. Exercise; Tuesday - 12:30 p.m. Variety of card and other games; Wednesday - Card Bingo; Thursday - 5:30 p.m. Potluck and Card Games.

New on Sunday: Music by Chuck Rovenstein for listening and dancing from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Check the newsletter for dates.

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By Rick Farinelli
Madera Chapter Tea Party Coordinator

What's the Difference Between San Fran and Madera?

The answer is *nothing* because both cities harbor illegal aliens, incurables, entitlement refugees and other socially correct indigents so they can receive federal and state assistance. Whether it is a bond, grant, federal or state taxes, a taxpaying American citizen is paying for these entitlement programs. The once great state of California is now 49th place in the debt structure. Taxpaying companies and citizens have been leaving California in droves. This now leaves us with state entitlement refugees and unions that are the major voters in the state. While other states are pushing illegal aliens, incurables, entitlement refugees and indigents out of their

states, California continues to open its doors to more non-taxpaying citizens leaving the state broke for the next several generations. New York and California are going down for the count because of the "you owe me" programs. Under this current administration, states with out of control entitlement programs are the great social experiment, which is, "Take from the rich, middle class and the business entrepreneurs, and then give it to the entitlement population."

Is it too late for California or Madera if the taxpaying citizen only talks about California and Madera County issues and then sits back and does nothing? We have an out-of-control government in our state and locally. We need to take back America one city, one county and one state at a time. Get involved locally and speak out against issues that bother you. Our country was built on freedom against tyranny. Last July, the

Madera Tribune (and even the Fresno Bee in their National & World Section) printed the Declaration of Independence of the July 4th 1776 Congress. I hope every taxpaying citizen had a chance to sit down and read our forefathers' message. Yes; we now have more states in the union of these United States of America and a lot has changed that our forefathers would have discouraged. Do these United States of America have constitutionally limited government, free markets and fiscal responsibility that our predecessors fought so hard for? Does it say in the Declaration of Independence that government will pay for the entitlement population of these United States of America?

Wake-Up Madera and start fighting for your rights as taxpaying citizens. Call on your government officials in the city, county and state to stop the fraud in our social systems

and reckless spending of our taxpaying dollars to entitlement programs. Encourage constitutionally limited government, free markets and fiscal responsibility.

Madera Chapter Tea Party Meetings

Good News: The Tea Party Patriots from all chapters helped defeat AB 724, the job-killing \$3.6 billion energy tax extension. As you can see, activism from many of you made a difference. We encourage more Madera and Ranchos Madera Patriots to join us.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 20 at 6 p.m. at DiCiccios, 516 South I Street, Madera. For updated details and scheduled speakers go to www.centralvalleyteaparty.com/events For more information contact John Smedley at 559-645-7031 or by e-mail at jcsmedley@comcast.net. You can also contact Rick Farinelli at 559 706-5386 or by e-mail at richardfarinelli@sbcglobal.net.

RECIPE cont. from P. 8

dash of garlic salt and salt and pepper. Mix well. Add shredded cheese and one hamburger bun that has been torn into small pieces. Mix well, and add to pan with the onion and let cook on medium heat until it gets crispy. Pull off and put on hamburger bun with a slice of American cheese.

Vegetarian Lasagna

This recipe takes a lot of work. It is best to prepare the day before and then let it sit in the refrigerator overnight so all the flavors can mix.

- ½ C Minced Onions
- 2 Cloves Garlic, Crushed
- 1 (28 oz.) Can Crushed Tomatoes
- 2 (6 oz.) Cans Tomato Paste
- 2 (6.5 oz.) Cans Canned Tomato Sauce
- ½ C Water
- 2 T White Sugar
- 1 ½ C Fresh Basil Leaves
- 1 tsp. Italian Seasoning
- 1 T Salt
- ¼ tsp. Black Pepper
- 4 T Chopped Parsley
- 2 Zucchini Sliced
- 2 Heads Broccoli Cut Into Florets
- 2 C Shredded Carrots
- 24 Large Lasagna Noodles
- 16 oz. Fresh Ricotta Cheese
- 1 Egg
- ½ tsp. Salt
- 2 pounds Fresh Mozzarella Cheese, Shredded

2 pounds Fresh Grated Parmesan Cheese

In large skillet cook onions and garlic until browned. Stir in crushed tomatoes, tomato paste, tomato sauce and water. Season with sugar, basil, Italian seasoning, 1 T salt, pepper and 2 T parsley.

Fill two large bowls with warm water and lay out the lasagna noodles and allow to soak.

In large mixing bowl, combine ricotta cheese with egg, remaining parsley and ½ tsp. salt.

To assemble, spread 1 ½ C of sauce in the bottom of a deep 9x13 baking pan. Arrange a layer of noodles lengthwise over sauce. Spread with part of the ricotta cheese mixture. Top with mozzarella cheese. Layer vegetables over cheese. Spoon 1 ½ C sauce over vegetables and sprinkle with ¼ C Parmesan cheese. Repeat layers and top with remaining parmesan and mozzarella cheese. Cover with foil. To prevent foil from sticking to cheese, spray foil with cooking spray.

Allow to sit in the fridge overnight.

Preheat oven to 375 degrees
Bake in preheated oven for 25 minutes. Remove foil, and bake an additional 25 minutes. Cool 15 minutes before serving.

Well, there you have it – I got through the article without using the four letter word "MEAT."



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GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

	x		+		10
+		x		-	
	+		+		19
x		+		x	
	x		-		17
21		15		16	

1 1 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

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STOCK cont. from P. 7

nounced. They are:

Felipe Piedra, Administrator of the Year

Chelan Shepherd, Elementary Teacher of the Year

Frank Panian, Secondary Teacher of the Year

Gail Allen, Operational Employee of the Year

Nicola Lambert, Instructional Employee of the Year

This event is also sponsored by the Foundation.

Congratulations go to Felipe Piedra, Principal at Webster Elementary School, who was recognized as

the administrator of the 2011 year for all of Madera County at the October "Madera County Excellence of Education" awards ceremony.

Good News for Golden Valley Schools API Scores

Webster Elementary's 2010 API score was 830; score is up 22 points in 2011 to 852.

Sierra View's 2010 API score was 860; score is up by two points in 2011 to 862.

Ranchos Middle School's 2010 API score was 828; score is up 39 points in 2011 to 850.

Liberty High School's 2010 API score was 828; in 2011 its score was

down seven points to 821. It looks like Liberty High has some work to do to get their scores back up.

Ranchos Library

I hear that we have a new librarian for the Ranchos Library. His name is Garin Gonzalez. The Friends of the Ranchos Library also held a fundraising event at Birdstone on Saturday, Sept. 17. It was called "Cool Jazz and Wine" with the proceeds benefitting the Ranchos Library. It was a nice relaxing night out. I hear that congratulations go to our past library Ellen Mester in her new position as Managing Librarian at the downtown Madera Library.

A Fun Trip

Don't forget that the Ranchos/Hills Seniors are planning a fun trip to Laughlin, Nevada on Nov. 6 to Nov. 10. The trip includes four nights at the Edgewater hotel and Casino. Also the cost covers round trip motor coach and driver's tip and two extra optional excursions to Hoover Dam/Colorado River Bypass Bridge and Oatman, Arizona on old Route 66. Cost \$180 per person double occupancy or \$210 per person single occupancy. Deposit of \$50 is due per person by Friday Sept. 30. Call the Senior Center at 559-645-4864 to make a reservation.

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For Sale

For Sale - Shop Rider Power Chair \$600 OBO; Large wooden corner desk \$100. OBO; Dayton suspended gas shop heater \$100 OBO; 400 ft. #8 GA. 3-strand well wire \$200 OBO. **Call 645-5248 or 645-4885.**

For Sale - Fine Things Warehouse has lots of gift choices. Christmas is coming - are you ready? Open 2nd, 3rd and 4th weekends from

Noon to 8 p.m. **37341 Ave. 16. Call 999-6832.**

For Sale - 40' Recreational trailer - ball hitch type. Full kitchen, tub/shower combo, separate toilet. A/C, Sleeps 4. Current registration. \$3,700 OBO. **Call 408-628-9300.**

Handyman

Handyman and Landscaping - Call for estimate or appointment. No job too big or too small. **Call 559-664-7422.**

Help Wanted

Salesperson Wanted - The Ranchos Independent is looking for someone who loves the Ranchos and loves the Ranchos Independent and wants the world to know about it. If you're organized and love to talk to people you're half way there ... we can help with the other half. **Call Randy at 645-0634 and we'll set up a time to talk. Look! You're talking already!**

Housecleaning

Housecleaning Service - Have your house spring cleaned all year long. Experience, responsible, honest. Fair prices. **Call 416-2585.**

Housecleaning - 20 years experience. Honest, reliable, references. **Call Rachael at 822-3330.**

Lost & Found

Found - A youth's Bible. Come in to the Ranchos Independent office and identify and it is yours. *(Ed. note: I really hope someone recognizes this as theirs. It is a keepsake.)*

Lost Dog - Lost over 4th of July weekend. Large Lab-

Pointer Mix. Chocolate Brown with white paws, stub tail. Name Mocha. Wearing red collar with tags and has microchip. **Call 645-4367 or Craig's List.**

Painting Services

Painting Services - 40 years of experience. Licensed and insured. Frank Kramer Exteriors. Lic. #273099. Call 645-4113.

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Pet Vaccinations

Low Cost Vaccinations. One Day Only in the Ranchos. Sat., November 19 from 10 a.m. to Noon. **Dog Gone Cute Store 645-7387 for both dogs and cats.**

Recyclables Pick Up

Free Recyclables Pickup -- KIDS 4 RECYCLING offers pickup of household paper, plastics, tin, glass, aluminum and cardboard. Funds support Rancho's Seniors, library, schools and 4H. **Info call Recycle Gal 999-6832 or 645-1048.**

Tractor/Trenching Services

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Yard Sales

Yard Sale - Sat. Oct. 1 - 7 a.m. - 3 p.m. We have too much stuff - come see what we have for sale. Very reasonable prices. Clothes, furniture, tools and household goods. Arizona Cypress and Pine trees. **14863 Rd. 35.**

Yard Sale - Sat. Oct. 1 - 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Cash only - no early birds, please. **37240 Cloverleaf Ave.**

**TO ADVERTISE
TODAY!
CALL 645-0634**

SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

	8		7	5	4	
		1	3		2	
3			6	2		1
	6		1	9		7
1			8			6
		7	4		8	9
9			8			7
		3		2	9	
	7	2		5		4

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

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9/11



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9/11




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Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps

WELL, THERE'S YOUR PROBLEM. YOU HAVE A BUNCH OF "SPAM" BUILT UP CAUSED FROM REPEATED VISITS TO SOME "JUSTIN BIEBER" WEBSITE.

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ARIES (March 21 to April 19) After much traveling this year, you're due for some settled time with family and friends. Use this period to check out situations that soon will require a lot of serious decision-making.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Keep that keen Bovine mind focused on your financial situation as it begins to undergo some changes. Consider your money moves carefully. Avoid impulsive investments.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You'll need to adjust some of your financial plans now that things are changing more quickly than you expected. All the facts you need haven't yet emerged, so move cautiously.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Personal and professional relationships dominate this period. Try to keep things uncomplicated to avoid misunderstandings that can cause problems down the line.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) That elusive goal you'd been hoping to claim is still just out of reach. But something else has come along that could prove just as desirable, if only you would take the time to check it out.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) This is a good time to get away for some much-needed rest and relaxation. You'll return refreshed and ready to take on the workplace challenge that awaits you.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Confidence grows as you work your way through some knotty situations. Watch out for distractions from well-meaning supporters that could slow things down.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Consider spending more time contemplating the possibilities of an offer before opting to accept or reject it. But once you make a decision, act on it.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) You're in a very strong position this week to tie up loose ends in as many areas as possible. Someone close to you has advice you might want to heed.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Congratulations. This is the week you've been waiting for: After a period of sudden stops and fitful starts, your plans can now move ahead with no significant disruptions.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) You're in an exceptionally strong position this week to make decisions on many still-unresolved matters, especially those involving close personal relationships.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) The new moon starts this week off with some positive movement in several areas. A special person becomes a partner in at least one of the major plans you'll be working on.

Born this Week

You work hard and get things done. You also inspire others to do their best. You would do well heading up a major corporation.

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FUN PAGES

POPEYE

AVAST, YA LANDLUBBER! ALL HAN'S ON DECK!

UP'N AT'EM, SWEET'PEA!

IT'S A BRAN' NEW SCHOOL TERM...

...AN' I DON'T WANT YA TA BE LATE!

I GOT A HOT BREAKFAST! WAITIN' FER YA!

LEMME GUESS?

IS IT BLUEBERRY PANCAKES WITH MAPLE SYRUP?

NO... BUT I'LL GIVE YA A LIL' HINT!

IT'S HEALTY AN' DELICIOUS!

AW GEE

AN' I PACKED A REAL HEALTY LUNCH!

I DON'T MIND TH' SPINACH 'N OATMEAL FER BREAKFAST SO MUCH...

... BUT TH' SPINACH 'N PEANUT BUTTER SANDWICHES! YEAH!

Henry

BY DON TRACHTE

KITCHEE - KITCHEE - COO

BLIK - SKABOO

GOO - GOO - PLINK

NOV - IKKY - SHMAV

GA - GA - GABOO!

SKIBOOCH

KAPOO?

THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME

SHOPPING LOGIC (SUPERMARKET DIV.)

F-FOUR JARS OF KUMQUATS?! WHY DID YA BUY THEM? WE NEVER EAT THIS STUFF... UGH-H...

BECAUSE I HAD COUPONS FOR TEN CENTS OFF ON EACH JAR....

THANK TO M. FROGAN, SAN FRANCISCO, CA.

NEVER, NEVER, BUT NEVER SAY YOU LIKE YOUR AMATEUR PAINTER FRIENDS' LATEST CANVAS, BECAUSE...

OH-ER-UH-YEAH-HOW NICE-UH-ER-LOVELY, Y-YES-HEA-HEA...

YOU LIKE IT SO MUCH-HERE! TAKE IT-IT'S YOURS...MY LITTLE GIFT TO YOU--ENJOY!

THE COLORS MATCH YOUR SETTEE...

THANK TO F. CUMMINGS, HUNTINGTON, ALA.

FOOLISH QUESTION # 1,753

THANK TO GERA DE LO, STAMFORD, CT.

OH, DID I CATCH YOU AT A BAD TIME?

Puzzle Card

FIG. 1

FIG. 2

8 TRIANGLES (6 SMALL, 2 LARGE)

6 TRIANGLES (4 SMALL, 2 LARGE)

LAY OUT 18 STICKS, as shown in Fig. 1, giving you eight triangles. Challenge your friends to move two of the sticks to new positions, so that there will be six triangles. Fig. 2 shows you how.

A WARP FACTOR FIVE FRAZZLER! See if you can replace the letters on this droid's screen with the digits 0 through 9, so that you will have a correct addition problem. The same letters get the same digits. Try to get the highest possible total.

Our answer: S=9, T=8, A=3, R=2, W=7, M=1, O=0, U=5, L=6, E=4 (9832 + 732 = 10564).

HERE'S A JUICY PROBLEM! At the right is a Word Square. Can you find the four five-letter words that match the definitions below?

- Source of raisins (in place).
- All stirred up.
- In association with.
- A British coin.
- Borders; dividing lines.

Answers: 1. Grape, 2. Fizz, 3. Along, 4. Pence, 5. Edges.

Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

DON'T LET THIS ONE CAGE YOU IN!

LARK
LANK
LINK
SINK
SING

You have five minutes to sing out the answers to these Ladder Puzzles. In this type of problem you are given a word that must be changed into another word in a series of moves. During each move, you must change one letter in the previous word to form a new word. In our example, we changed LARK to SING in four moves. See if you can change the following words in four moves each.

1. TEED to GOLF
2. FIRE to WOOD
3. HOLD to CARD
4. BOAT to DECK
5. CASE to WORK

STAR
WAR
MOVIE

G	R	A	P	E
R				
A				
P				
E				

Answers:
1. TEED, TOLD, GOLD, GOLF
2. FIRE, FORD, WORD, WOOD
3. HOLD, HOLD, CORD, CARD
4. BOAT, BEAT, BEAK, BECK, DECK
5. CASE, CARE, CORE, MORE, WORK

Wishing Well

8	3	2	7	6	5	2	5	2	6	2	7	2
A	B	P	J	B	A	R	D	O	E	F	O	I
5	4	5	3	7	4	5	6	7	3	5	2	7
A	U	Y	E	B	N	F	C	A	P	O	T	D
5	6	8	5	8	2	6	7	3	2	3	2	8
R	O	B	F	E	A	U	V	R	B	E	L	T
4	8	2	3	5	6	3	2	3	4	5	7	2
C	T	E	P	U	R	A	P	R	A	N	A	A
3	2	6	4	6	8	7	2	6	4	3	2	7
E	R	A	N	G	E	N	T	E	N	D	N	C
2	7	6	7	8	2	4	7	4	8	7	6	4
E	E	O	M	R	R	Y	E	T	L	N	U	I
7	2	6	2	4	8	4	2	8	2	4	8	4
T	S	H	M	I	I	F	P	N	E	G		

HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

BIRTH FLOWERS

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 L Q O M K D O P D I I L O H P
 Y F D B N H Z W Y M D L D W H
 V T R E T Q O D O R N A I L I
 K I L W H N A F D O C V L A N
 Z A A X S I R E T S A W V G I
 C H R Y S A N T H E M U M U U
 S R Q Y R O L G G N I N R O M

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Aster	Daisy	Holly	Primrose
Calendula	Delphinium	Larkspur	Rose
Chrysanthemum	Gladiolus	Morning glory	Snowdrop
Daffodil	Hawthorn	Poppy	

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TRIVIA TEST

By Fifi Rodriguez

1. GEOGRAPHY: Most of the Sierra Madre mountains are located in what country?
2. MATH: What term is used to describe an irrational number such as pi?
3. HISTORY: Before the start of the Civil War, in what city was the Confederacy's provisional constitution adopted?
4. ART: What was artist Picasso's first name?
5. TELEVISION: What was the Bionic Woman's name?
6. OPERA: Who composed the opera "The Magic Flute"?
7. SCIENCE: What is the most abundant element in the known universe?
8. LANGUAGE: What does the acronym GOP stand for?
9. LITERATURE: Who wrote the book "The Naked and the Dead"?
10. MUSIC: What does the musical term "allegro" mean?

Answers

1. Mexico
2. Transcendental
3. Montgomery, Ala.
4. Pablo
5. Jaime Sommers
6. Mozart
7. Hydrogen
8. Grand Old Party
9. Norman Mailer
10. Lively and fast

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Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



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JERRY CRAFT



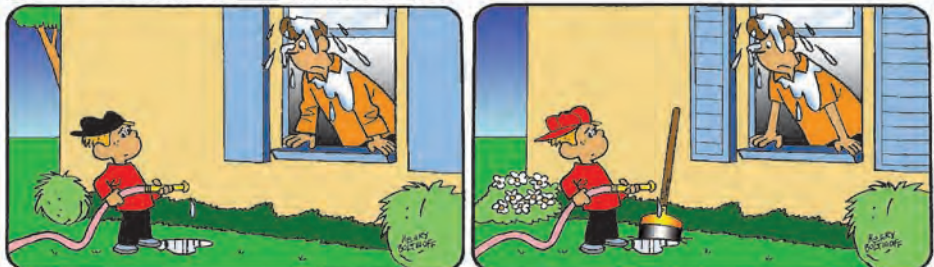
The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



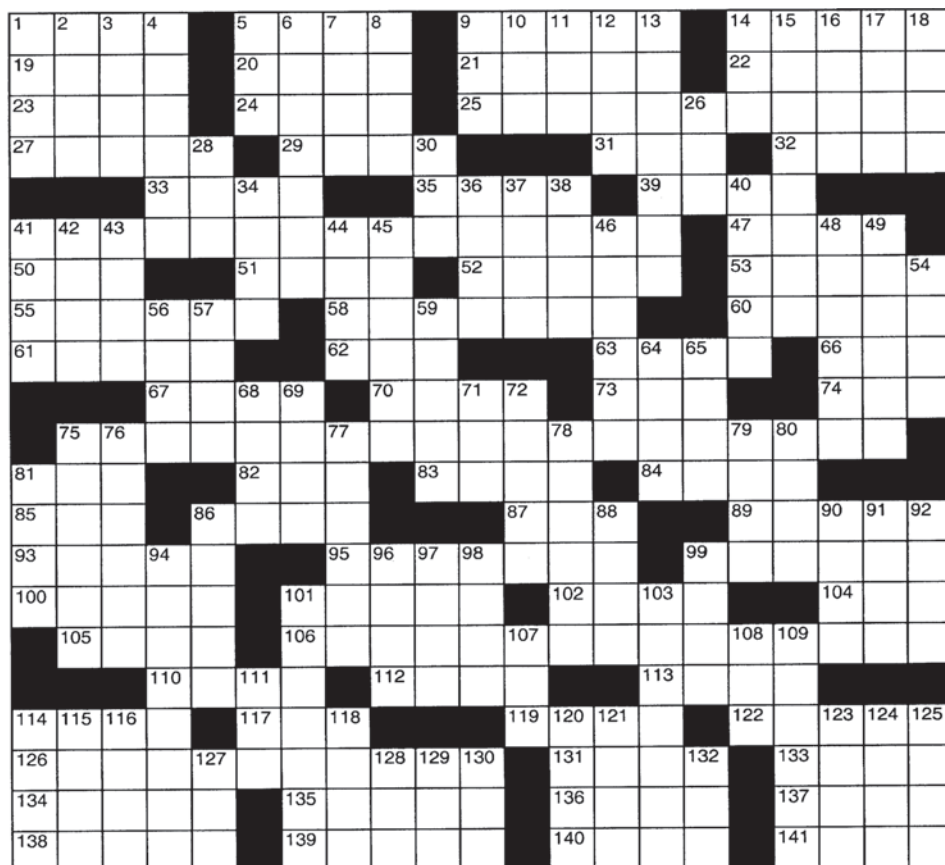
HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels. Differences: 1. Tree is missing. 2. Boy's shirt is different. 3. Shovel has been added. 4. Shrub has flowers. 5. Window has shutters. 6. Man's shirt has short sleeves.

Super Crossword



- ACROSS**
- 1 Stromboli spew
 - 5 "Waterloo" rockers
 - 9 Envelops
 - 14 Gaiters
 - 19 Mideastern muck-a-muck
 - 20 Spooky Stoker
 - 21 Disprove
 - 22 Let
 - 23 General Bradley
 - 24 Rustic tower
 - 25 Start of a remark by 126 Across
 - 27 Athenian sage
 - 29 Indian sectarian
 - 31 Airport abbr.
 - 32 Good-sized
 - 33 Author Jessamyn
 - 35 With 81 Down, '44 chemistry Nobel
 - 39 Hatch's home
 - 41 Part 2 of remark
 - 47 TV's "The Love —"
 - 50 Santa —, CA
 - 51 "Oh, woe!"
 - 52 TV exec Arledge
 - 53 Citified
 - 55 Like a dachshund
 - 58 Cozy cloth
 - 60 Marten
 - 61 — bear
 - 62 Asian holiday
 - 63 Skilled
 - 66 Scottsboro's st.
 - 67 Rubberneck
 - 70 Morlocks' prey
 - 73 Mexican Mrs.
 - 74 Point
 - 75 Part 3 of remark
 - 81 Crone
 - 82 R-V hookup
 - 83 Head for the clouds
 - 84 Actress
 - 85 Khan
 - 86 ER
 - 87 Minify a midi, maybe?
 - 89 Top-drawer
 - 93 Feeling
 - 95 Like a gymnast
 - 99 5 Across' home
 - 100 Michael of "Dynasty"
 - 101 Schell or Shriver
 - 102 European capital
 - 104 Foster's "— Dog Tray"
 - 105 Half-baked?
 - 106 End of remark
 - 110 McGregor of "Train-spotting"
 - 112 Creme — creme
 - 113 Bathday cake?
 - 114 — League
 - 117 Fond du —, WI
 - 119 Metric measure
 - 122 Pulsate
 - 126 Speaker of remark
 - 131 Writer Rendell
 - 133 Autumn implement
 - 134 Boredom
 - 135 Draw forth
 - 136 Exercise aftermath
 - 137 Brute
 - 138 Prepares cherries
 - 139 Hazardous gas
 - 140 — tetra
 - 141 Tide type
 - 5 Pecs' partners
 - 6 "The — Stomp" ('61 hit)
 - 7 Part of Indonesia
 - 8 Out of control
 - 9 Twisted
 - 10 Rock's — Speedwagon
 - 11 — Dhabi
 - 12 Purple hue
 - 13 Lawyer's concern
 - 14 Bando of baseball
 - 15 Excess
 - 16 Jai —
 - 17 Haynes or Rundgren
 - 18 Fluctuate
 - 26 "Unforgettable" name
 - 28 Born
 - 30 Torrid
 - 34 Corset part
 - 36 Aquatic bird
 - 37 '82 Jeff Bridges film
 - 38 Hautboy
 - 40 Liplash?
 - 41 Door hardware
 - 42 In the know
 - 43 Julia of "Havana"
 - 44 Float
 - 45 In the arms of Morpheus
 - 46 Loosen the ropes
 - 48 Conductor Claudio
 - 49 Fat stuff
 - 54 Shipshape
 - 56 Unfashionable eyewear?
 - 57 Wild child
 - 59 Reference volume
 - 64 Soft cheese
 - 65 Arrive at Kennedy
 - 68 "Yo!" at the library
 - 69 Singer James
 - 71 Lennon's lady
 - 72 "My Own Private —" ('91 film)
 - 75 Endangered feline
 - 76 Kampala's country
 - 77 Sheriff's quarry
 - 78 Aftershock
 - 79 Had no doubts
 - 80 Patriot Nathan
 - 81 See 35 Across
 - 86 Creature for taming?
 - 88 Kid's creation?
 - 90 Matinee —
 - 91 Reveal
 - 92 They may be split
 - 94 It's all in your head
 - 96 Angered
 - 97 Location
 - 98 Comic Mort
 - 99 Mediocre
 - 101 Superintendent
 - 103 Basutoland, today
 - 107 Acorn, eventually
 - 108 Welcome item?
 - 109 "Silkwood" screenwriter
 - 111 Flagon filler
 - 114 Very long time
 - 115 Flat rate
 - 116 Excellent
 - 118 Musical finale
 - 120 Where to speak Farsi
 - 121 Last name in publishing
 - 123 Frenzy
 - 124 Creole veggie
 - 125 Freeway sound
 - 127 "Platoon" extras
 - 128 "Father Knows Best" kid
 - 129 Author Umberto
 - 130 Actor Cariou
 - 132 Lady lobster

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SEMUCU

south east madera county united

**SEMUCU
REGULAR MEETING**
Monday, October 17 at 6:30 p.m.
Ranchos Pizza Factory

Finally!

A place to get your questions answered about what's happening in the Ranchos. Whether you're looking for solutions to Water Issues, questions about Traffic Situations, curious about the prospects for the Ranchos getting a Park or what the future holds for a Community Center, this new Website is for you.

www.semcu.org

Want to be a Grant Writer?

SEMUCU is looking for volunteers to be on the Grant Committee. The Manchester Center in Fresno is offering a Grant Writing 101 class beginning November 9. SEMUCU will pay for any member interested in attending.

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